Dkt. 1141/76407



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Yoshihiro GOTO

Application No.: 10/583,420 Group Art Unit: 2624

Date Filed: December 16, 2004 Examiner: Jason E. Heidemann

For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR EXTRACTING REGION INCLUDING STRATIFIED REGION HELD BETWEEN FIRST AND SECOND CLOSED REGIONS (as

amended)

This correspondence is being filed electronically with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office via EFS-Web.

July 16, 2010

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Date

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In order to ensure compliance with the applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §1.97(a)-(d), Applicant hereby submits this Information Disclosure Statement.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(4), concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. Therefore, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(4), no fee or certification is due or required.

One of the references (JP 2002-325761) listed in the annexed Form PTO-1449 was cited in a May 10, 2010 Japanese official action (copy enclosed herewith) in connection with a counterpart Japanese patent application. Other references which were also cited in the May 10, 2010 Japanese official action were submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed on October 7, 2009 (JP 63-115541) or with the Information Disclosure Statement filed on June 14, 2006 (JP 2000-210284, JP 2003-503136 and JP 61-208180), and therefore are not being listed on the Form PTO-1449 annexed hereto.

It is respectfully requested that the information cited in the annexed Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, and that such art be made of record in said application.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that these items are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of the particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

Copies of references, listed on the annexed Form PTO-1449, that are not a U.S. patent or U.S. patent application publication are submitted herewith.

The Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that are required, and to credit any overpayment during prosecution of this patent application, to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,

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